Picking the Winners - SCONUL Conference
June 2009, Bournemouth

Jockeying for position: the research competition, open access and the race for the top

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Three points of origin

- Technology – because we can
- Economics – because we should
Houghton Study 2009

UK Higher Education - total £4,783,800,000

- Reading (published staff)
- Writing
- Peer Review
- Editorial Activities
- Editorial Board Activities
- Preparing Grant Applications
- Reviewing Grant Applications
Houghton Study

Scholarly communication system costs per article

- Self-archiving: £7,115
- OA Publishing: £7,463
- Toll Access: £8,296
Three points of origin

- Technology – because we can
- Economics – because we should
- Researchers – because we must
The Key Issue

- Understanding core business of research institutions and their communities;
- In particular, understanding the motives and drivers of researchers and the difference between the “give-away” and the “non give-away” literature.
Institutional repository policy at QUT

Policy F/1.3 E-print repository for research output at QUT

1.3.1 Application

QUT staff and post-graduate students produce research and scholarly output as a contribution to their discipline and/or as part of scholarly discourse. A significant proportion of this is intended for publication for the general purpose of recognition and impact. The following policy applies to this process, only where such output is not intended for commercialisation or individual royalty payment or revenue for the author or QUT. In effect it applies to the corpus of refereed research literature, conference proceedings, and other non-refereed output, as contributed by QUT to the outside world.
1.3.2 Policy

Material which represents the total publicly available research and scholarly output of the University is to be located in the University's digital or "E print" repository, subject to the exclusions noted. In this way it contributes to a growing international corpus of refereed and other research literature available on line, a process occurring in universities worldwide.
1.3.2 Policy

The following materials are to be included:

- Refereed research articles and contributions;
- Un-refereed research literature, conference contributions, chapters in proceedings, etc (the accepted draft);
- Theses as prepared for the Australian Digital Theses (ADT) process;
Materials to be included ... cont’d

- Access to these contributions will be subject to any necessary agreement with the publisher;
- The material is to be organised in the repository according to the same categories used for the reporting of research to DEST;
- Material to be commercialised, or which contains confidential material, or of which the promulgation would infringe a legal commitment by the University and/or the author, should not be included in the repository.
QUT’s Institutional Repository - QUT ePrints

- Established in 2003
- [http://eprints.qut.edu.au](http://eprints.qut.edu.au)
- Focus is currently on providing open access to the ‘postprint’ versions of QUT’s peer-reviewed scholarly publications
From QUT - 5 years on.....

- QUT ePrints
- March 2009
  - 14,269 records
  - 8784 with open access full-text attached
  - (plus over 1,000 additional with restricted access full-text attached – includes embargoes)
  - 2088 active depositors
The five post-Gutenberg distinctions (Harnad)

1. Non giveaway or giveaway?
2. Income or impact?
3. Plagiarism or piracy (copyright)?
4. Vanity or refereed?
5. Unrefereed preprint or refereed postprint?
Open access and citation frequency (Gargouri)

1. OA adds an independent positive increment
2. There is no difference for mandated and unmandated OA
3. The citation advantage is greater for high impact journals
Citation impact for a mature researcher (QUT)

- Prof. Ray Frost began uploading the accepted manuscript versions of his published articles to QUT ePrints in 2004.
- The open access copies have been downloaded 173,615 times.
- Annual citation rate increased from 308 citations in 2004 to 1727 citations in 2008.
Citation impact for an early career researcher (QUT)

Citation Report
Author=‘martens W’
Timespan=All Years. Databases=SCI-EXPANDED, SSCI, A&HCI

This report reflects citations to source items indexed within Web of Science. Perform a Cited Reference Search to include citations to items not indexed within Web of Science.

- Published Items in Each Year
- Citations in Each Year

Results found: 255

- Sum of the Times Cited: 2,676
- View Citing Articles
- View without self-citations

- Average Citations per Item: 10.45
- h-index: 28

Years

Years

CRICOS No. 000213J
Total Research Income Comparison – QUT and Sector, 2003 to 2007

QUT 2003 – 07 (increase of 132%)

Sector 2003 – 07 (increase of 68%)
Open Access taking root in QUT

- The champion researchers become the main advocates
- The exemplar research growth faculty rewards academics for depositing
- The library and the research portfolio (research office) unite to improve metrics
Main Issues Arising

- distractions arising from government research assessment and open access agendas becoming confused;
- distractions arising from less relevant conversations about repositories;
- well-known confusables.
Misunderstandings
– Suber’s field guide

1. All OA is gold OA

2. Low levels of spontaneous self-archiving reflect opposition to OA

3. OA archiving will kill journal subscriptions

4. OA is about bypassing peer review
5. Okay, then, but OA journals skimp on peer review

6. Okay, then but at least green OA is about bypassing peer review

7. OA is about punishing greedy or obstructive publishers

8. OA journals couldn’t possibly pay their bills
9. OA is a business model

10. All OA journals charge publication fees

11. Okay, then. But all “high quality” OA journals charge publication fees

12. Publication fees and OA journals must be paid by authors’ out of pocket
A provocation
– OA and the Library Director

- The Library Director is the publisher’s friend
- The Library Director is just here to serve
- The Library Director is an OA pretender
- The Library Director commits to transformation
## Mandates in Australia and the UK

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Hot Issues for the next five years

- The metrics of trust and the location of prestige
- New forms of “give away” scholarly resources
- Pressure on the “non give away”?
  - [UK Research Information Network and Others have traversed these in part]
Questions?